

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Bruchmann) PATENT APPLICATION
Serial No.: 10/031,830) BRU6144P0040US
International)
Filing Date: July 20, 2000) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Designated
For: FUSE COMBINATION UNIT AND) Examiner: Not Yet Designated
OPERABLE ROCKER WITH) Confirmation No. 5770
MONITORING DISPLAY)
(As Amended)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

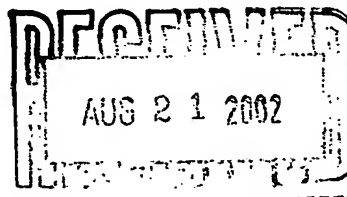
Sir:

Applicant has the following seven (7) co-pending U.S. patent applications relating to fuses:

1. 09/508,953
2. 09/600,097
3. 10/031,830
4. 10/031,831
5. 10/031,941
6. 10/031,943
7. U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP/00/11041 with an international filing date of November 8, 2000 and U.S. stage initial submission date by Express Mail of May 23, 2002.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the art identified on the attached form PTO/S/08A and other matters discussed below may be helpful to the Patent Office in its examination of the application identified above.

A copy of each of the patent documents identified on Form PTO/SB/08A is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.



The documents disclosed in the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A were cited in the corresponding International Search Report for PCT/EP00/06944 (copy enclosed).

The following comments are directed to the non-English language documents listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A.

FR 75 34564 (Publication 2 331 881)

The French publication FR 2 331 881 discloses a fused switch unit for a fuse link, whereas the fused switch unit also comprises an illumination device as a control device. This illumination device is attached in the direct vicinity and in the same structural component as the fuse link itself, as can be seen in all embodiments, especially in FIG. 1, FIG. 4, and FIG. 5.

EP 92 11 3830.1 (Publication 0 530 563 A1)

The European Patent Application EP 0 530 563 A1 discloses a low-voltage fusible link, which has an indicator device in the form of a glow-lamp. The glow lamp, indicated by reference numeral 10, 18, is positioned in a grip part of the fuse plug 20 for the fuse link, where it is visible from outside via a window 11, as can be seen in FIG. 3. The indicator further comprises diodes 6 and 7 as well as capacitors 8 and 9, whereas the capacitors 8 and 9 are arranged in parallel to the glow lamp 10, as can be seen in FIG. 1.

DE 197 44 447 A1

The German patent application DE 197 44 447 A1 discloses a fuse holder assembly, which has an indicator device 38, which is accommodated in the same

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structural component as the associated fuse element 21, as can be especially seen in FIG. 2. The fuse holder assembly 15 provides a bore 3 in order to enable an insertion of a test plug 26.

FR 78 06742 (Publication 2 419 581)

The French publication FR 2 419 581 discloses a fused switch unit also comprising a discharge lamp being positioned in the housing of said fused switch unit. In order to make the lamp 20 visible from outside, several complex structures comprising some alternatives for optical elements 22 to make a lamp visible from outside are suggested. Several solutions for the arrangement of the optical element 22 are shown in FIGS. 2, 4, 5, and 6.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b)

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that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]


No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

By


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on *May 31*, 2002.


Paul M. Odell